Separating the Activities of BIS

1745. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to separate activities of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) so that they would only issue the standards whereas the implementation and checking authorities would be different like in many other developed countries;

(b) if so, by when it would come into effect; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Formulation of Indian Standards and operation of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Certification Scheme are two core activities of BIS. Indian Standards formulated by BIS are for voluntary adoption by industry and purchasers. One of the means of implementation of standards is through BIS Certification Scheme which is by are large voluntary in nature. However, keeping view public health and safety, compliance with Indian Standards for 118 products has been made mandatory by the Government througjh various Quality Control Orders issued by various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India under different acts and rules framed thereunder. BIS through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance visits ensure that all its licensees for different products adhere to the various quality specifications prescribed in the relevant standards. If any deviation in the quality specifications of the licensed product is observed, corrective action is taken by BIS in accordance with the provision of the BIS Act and Rules framed thereunder. However, enforcement of Quality Control Orders issued for different products is done by the designated implementating authorties mentioned in the order.